

0:40 min

9/5/92

Thanksgiving - Brian me Connacht

SHINING TIME STATION

"Thanksgiving"

BY

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FIRST DRAFT
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SCENE 1
(MAINSET)

(FADE IN)

(DAY. HOLIDAY TRAVELERS RUSH IN.
HOLIDAY TRAVELERS RUSH OUT)

(DAN ENTERS FROM THE LEFT AND...
KARA ENTERS FROM THE RIGHT)

(JUST AS KARA OPENS HER MOUTH TO
SPEAK TO DAN, A WHOLE HERD OF
INCOMING PASSENGERS CUT BETWEEN THE
CHILDREN. AD LIBS OF: EXCUSE ME,
COMING THROUGH, GOTTA CATCH A
TRAIN, IN A RUSH, ETC... TWIRLING
BOTH KIDS AROUND)

DAN:

What did you say?

KARA:

... I said...

(AND AGAIN THE PASSENGER HERD CUTS
BETWEEN THE CHILDREN AS THEY EXIT
AD LIBBING THE SAME URGENCY AND
SPINNING THE KIDS AROUND)

DAN:

... I couldn't hear what
you said.

(KARA LOOKS LEFT AND RIGHT... THE
COAST LOOKS CLEAR)

KARA:

All I said was...

(AGAIN THE HERD RUSHES IN. BUT HIS
TIME THEY SWEEP DAN AWAY AND IN HIS
WAKE, DEPOSIT BECKY)

What happened to Dan?

BECKY:

Did something happen to
Dan?

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

KARA:

He was just there. I was
talking to him.

BECKY:

What were you talking to
him about?

KARA:

Well, I was just
saying...

(AGAIN THE HERD EXITS. TAKING KARA
AND LEAVING DAN)

DAN:

Where's Kara?

BECKY:

I don't know. She was
looking for you. She
wanted to tell you
something.

(THIS TIME, DAN AND BECKY SPOT THE
HERD COMING AT THEM AND JUMP OUT
OF THEIR WAY. IN THEIR WAKE IS
KARA TWIRLING TO A STOP)

BECKY:

Look, I found Dan.

KARA:

What happened to you?

DAN:

I was trying to hear what
you said and I guess I
got carried away. What
did you say?

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

KARA:

I just said...

(KARA LOOKS THIS WAY AND THAT)

... hi.

DAN:

Hi.

BECKY:

Hi.

KARA:

Hi.

DNA: ✓

Thanksgiving gets crazy
around here.

(THE SOUND OF ANOTHER HERD, THEY
ALL JUMP OUT OF THE WAY)

(AT THE END OF THE HERD IS MIDGE)

MIDGE:

Hello children... how are
you today? Don't bother
telling me, I have far
too much on my mind as it
is...

(SHE SPOTS SCHEMER. HE IS DRESSED
AS A PILGRIM -- REMOTELY AS A
PILGRIM. HIS COSTUME:
SCHEMERIZED. MIDGE GOES OVER TO
HIM)

MIDGE:

My gracious, what are you
supposed to be?

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

A pilgrim. You like it, huh. Pretty great, isn't it. I represent Thanksgiving of the Future. I'm getting this idea up and running.

MIDGE:

What is the Thanksgiving of the Future?

SCHEMER;

On Thanksgiving, the new, improved Thanksgiving, people GIVE me stuff. Neat stuff; and NOT clothes. And all I have to do is say "Why... thanks. Thanks for giving." It's gonna be great... you'll see. What are you dressed up for?

MIDGE:

The Paddington-Hoovingtons are having a big, BIG Thanksgiving party and inviting just the most SPECIAL people in the Valley.

SCHEMER:

So what. I'm going to a bigger party at my mommy's house.

MIDGE:

They're serving candied yams...

SCHEMER:

We're having candied yams with chocolate sauce all over them!

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

MIDGE:

They're having pumpkin
pie.

SCHEMER:

We're having...
watermelon pie! And
everyone knows watermelon
pie is BETTER than
pumpkin pie.

MIDGE;

They have three turkeys
each weighing more than
30 POUNDS!

SCHEMER;

So what. Mommy is
serving a turkey that
weighs.. a hundred...
and... FORTY POUNDS!

MIDGE:

Good gracious, Schemer!
That's bigger than...
Stacy over there.

(INSERT: STACY WORKING AT THE
BOOTH)

SCHEMER;

...yeah?

MIDGE:

Are you telling me that
you're going to eat a
turkey as big as Stacy...

SCHEMER:

... not all at once.

(MIDGE DEPARTS SHAKING HER HEAD.
WALKING TOWARDS STACY BUT FIRST
SHE RUNS TO GINNY)

✓

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

MIDGE:

Ginny... were YOU invited
to the Paddington-
Hoovington's party?

GINNY:

Hay Hay Hay. Never heard
of 'em. Got my nephew
and his wife coming for
dinner.

*Wouldn't she have heard of them
in this small community?*

MIDGE:

How's that new dog of
yours? What's his name?
... Glen, Prince of
Goodness.,

GINNY:

Had to change his name.
His new name is Mr.
Filthy.

MIDGE:

Why do you call him Mr.
Filthy?

GINNY:

'Cause he's always in the
garbage. Day in and day
out. Every time I turn
around, he's in the
garbage... he tosses it
in the air and then he
dances in it. Makes me
sick, I tell you. It's a
disgrace. I gotta go and
take my turkey out. See
you all later. Have a
happy one.

(THE AD LIB GOOD-BYES. MIDGE COMES
TO STACY)

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

MIDGE:

I don't guess anyone ELSE
here was invited to
Paddington-Hoovington's
Thanksgiving party.

STACY;

I sure wasn't.

(BILLY ENTERS)

Billy, I'm going to post
these new holiday
schedules outside. I'll
be right back.

(STACY EXITS. DAN AND BECKY COME
OVER. ALL AD LIB HELLOS)

MIDGE;

And what are YOU doing for
Thanksgiving, Billy?

BILLY:

I've been invited to have
Thanksgiving with the
Boomers and the Hobos.

MIDGE:

With Boomers and Hobos.
My gracious.

BILLY:

It's a great honor to be
invited. And it's fun.
First there's a parade.
Then we sing songs, then
we sit down to our meal
and afterwards, we all
tell stories.

DAN:

Who are the Boomers and
the Hobos, Billy?

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

BILLY:

Special railroad
people...

BECKY:

Can we come?

BILLY:

I'm afraid you have to be
invited...

*why not inclusive, rather than
exclusive?*

(BILLY CHECKS HIS WATCH)

... and I should be
going pretty soon. I'm
bringing the cranberry
sauce.

BECKY:

Why are they special?

J.B. KING:

(VO)

Billy!

(J.B. KING ENTERS)

Ah, Billy. Just the man
I was looking for...

BILLY:

Excuse me, kids... What
is it Mr. King?

(THEY MEET HALFWAY)

KING:

Billy, we're going to
need more trains running
today. The crowds are
bigger than we expected,.

BILLY:

Well, all the working
engines are working.

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

KING:

Who aren't we using?
Hey, what about Engine
#23, "Old Reliable"?

BILLY:

I'll check...

(BILLY TAKES A LOG BOOK FROM BEHIND
THE BOOTH AND CONSULTS IT)

She's got a busted boiler
nozzle, her piston rings
are cracked and three of
her wheels are missing.

KING:

Mmmmmm... Well... what
about Engine 64, "Old
Dependable"?

BILLY:

... "Old Dependable" ...
She split her crank
shaft, shot all her
gaskets and her
smokestack blew off.

KING:

Mmmmmm... can you fix
her?

BILLY:

... It'll take a while.

KING:

Well, get on it then! We
can't be thinking of
ourselves. There are a
lot of people counting on
us to get them home in
time for Thanksgiving
dinner.

BILLY:

Okay.

[no resistance ?

SCENE 1 (CONT'D)

(KING GIVES BILLY AN ENCOURAGING
PAT ON THE BACK AND EXITS. BILLY
GOES INTO HIS OFFICE)

SCENE 2
(WORKSHOP)

(BILLY SPEAKS TO HIMSELF AS HE
GATHERS HIS TOOLS)

BILLY:

I'll miss the parade but
if I hurry, maybe I can
get there in time for the
songs, the dinner and the
stories.

(BILLY GRABS HIS TOOL BAG AND
HURRIES OUT)

SCENE 3
(MAINSET)

(AFTER BILLY EXITS, STACY ENTERS
THE OPPOSITE SIDE. SHE'S LOOKING
FOR BILLY... STACY SEES KARA)

STACY:

Billy? ... Kara, have you
seen Billy?

KARA:

He just went *out in a hurry*
~~running out.~~

STACY:

And just when I need him!
... Schemer!

(STACY MEETS SCHEMER HALF WAY)

SCHEMER:

What is it? You have a
Thanksgiving gift for me?
It better not be clothes.

STACY:

I don't have a gift for
you.

SCHEMER:

Then you're not getting
my extra special, super
improved, "Why, thank
you, Miss Stacy." Don't
even dream about it...

STACY:

I want you to help me.

SCHEMER:

Help you! What kind of a
Thanksgiving treat is
that?

STACY:

Would you please
^ Grab the end of that
table.

*Don't make it
sound like an order*

SCENE 3 (CONT'D)

(IT'S A LONG COLLAPSIBLE TABLE
WHICH THEY CARRY TO DOWNSTAGE)

SCHEMER:

Why do I have to help?
This is Billy's job.

STACY:

Let's set it up here.

(STACY FOLDS OUT THE LEGS AND SET
IT UPRIGHT. BECKY AND DAN COME
OVER)

SCHEMER:

I have better things to
do than help. Why right
now I could be standing
over there. And people
could be coming in,
people who have never met
me before, and they could
be handing me presents...
Or over there resting on
that rail. Or even just
curled up in a ball on
the floor over there...
Or I could be...

(SCHEMER CONTINUES ON AS HE EXITS)

KARA:

What's the table for,
Aunt Stacy?

SCENE 3 (CONT'D)

STACY:

Well, on Thanksgiving a lot of people bring different dishes to other people's homes. We ^est up this table so they can rest their dishes here. They won't have to hold them. Some of the dishes are hot.

(AS SHE SPEAKS SEVERAL PEOPLE PUT DISHES ON THE TABLE, AND NOD A THANKS TO STACY)

See...

SCENE 4
(INT. JUKEBOX)

GRACE:

Well, everybody seems to
have a special place to
go for Thanksgiving.

DIDI:

That's good, Hate to be
alone on Thanksgiving.

TITO:

Dinner will be ready in
just a little while.

DIDI:

The table is all set.

TEX:

Hope nobody plays a song.

REX:

Yup. We can't be eating
and singing at the same
time. Nope. Can't sing
with food in your mouth.

ALL:

No no no no can't do that
bad... wrong...

GRACE:

It's nothing to worry
about. People out there
are too busy to play
songs today.

ALL:

Yup too busy too busy too
busy

DIDI:

At last, we get a day
off.

SCENE 4 (CONT'D)

ALL:

Yup. Good to have a day
off.

TITO:

... we have a little
time before our meal.

DIDI:

What shall we do?

ALL:

... let's play
something!

TITO:

Something that's _____.

(PUPPET SONG: _____.)

SCENE 5
(MAINSET)

(DAN, BECKY AND KARA ARE BY THE
TABLE LOOKING AT ALL THE DISHES
THAT ARE PRESENT)

KARA;

I don't get what's so
special about
Thanksgiving.

BECKY:

We don't get gifts.

KARA:

We don't get to stay up
late.

DAN:

And we have to keep our
clothes clean.

BECKY:

What do you think is
under this one?

(DAN AND KARA SHRUG. BECKY LIFTS
THE LID)

DAN & KARA:

Peas!

(BECKY UNCOVERS THE NEXT)

DAN & KARA:

Salad!

(KARA LIFTS THE LID FROM A LARGE
PLATTER. STRETCHED OUT ON HIS
STOMACH, CHIN RESTING ON HIS
WRISTS, KNEES BENT, ANKLES CROSSED
IS MR. C. POSING LIKE A 40'S
BATHING BEAUTY)

DAN & KARA:

Mr. Conductor!

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

BECKY:

What are you doing under
there?

MR. C:

I was just seeing what
it's like from the
turkey's point of view.

DAN:

What is it like?

MR. C:

It's a bad time for big
birds.

DAN:

And it's not so great for
us either.

KARA:

Yeah, why's Thanksgiving
such a big deal?

MR. C:

Do you know how it
started?

BECKY:

... not really.

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

Well about 350 years ago,
settlers from Europe came
to this continent to
live... they were called
Pilgrims.

(INSERT: ACCOMPANYING PICTURES.
[MR. C. COULD THEM TO A BOOK])

And they had a lot of
trouble growing crops so
they didn't have much to
eat. When the people who
already lived here, who
the Pilgrims called
Indians, learned about
this trouble, they gave
the Pilgrims seeds and
taught them about the
soil. And at last, their
crops began to grow and
they finally had a good
harvest. To celebrate,
they had a feast. The
Indians and the Pilgrims
sat down together and
shared all the bounty the
land offered. And that
was the first
Thanksgiving. In time,
it's become a day that
people stop and think
about all they have to be
grateful for; especially
the food we have and the
friends we are blessed
with. Now because you're
my friends, I have
something I want to share
with you.

BECKY:

Can we guess?

MR. C:

Go ahead.

DAN:

A Thomas story.

✓ Good?

provide into several sentences

check the
story with
a call to the
Pilgrims
plantation

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

Right you are.

SCENE 6

(TTE: "THOMAS, PERCY AND CHRISTMAS
ADVENTURE" -- RE-CUT AND NARRATED
FOR THANKSGIVING)

SCENE 7
(MAINSET)

DAN, BECKY & KARA:

That's nice.

MR. C:

Well I have to be going.
Sir Topham Hatt is have^{ing}
his party for all the
people on Sodor. And
they asked em to bring
Baby Ruby Bubble
Biscuits. ✓

DAN:

What are they?

MR. C:

I have no idea. I have
to go read the recipe.
Wish me luck.

(AT ENTRANCE, BILLY RETURNS. HE IS
IN A HURRY; CHECKS HIS WATCH. HE
RUSHES TOWARD HIS OFFICE)

SCENE 8
(WORKSHOP)

(AS BILLY PUTS AWAY HIS TOOLS:)

BILLY:

I missed the parade and
the songs but if I can
catch the next train,
maybe I'll get there in
time for the meal and the
stories...

(ENTER DAN, BECKY AND KARA)

KARA:

You were going to tell us
about the Boomers and the
hobos...

(THERE'S A COMMOTION OUTSIDE)

GINNY:

(VO)

Terrible terrible. You
have to help me.

BILLY:

Excuse me kids...

(BILLY EXITS)

SCENE 9
(MAINSET)

(GINNY IS WITH STACY. BILLY JOINS THEM)

GINNY:

Awful! Terrible!

STACY:

Ginny, calm down and tell us what happened?

GINNY:

You know my dog?

STACY:

The one you renamed Mr. Filthy?

GINNY:

Well, he's really gone and done it this time. I took the turkey out to let it cool. And he's lookin' at it like a pointer.

(SHE IMITATES A POINTER, STIFF, WIDE EYED, FRONT PAW UP)

I thought, well, isn't that cute. But then he lunged. Attacked it. Ran out the back door with it and tore it to shreds. And now I don't have a turkey.

KARA:

Mr. Filthy is a bad dog.

GINNY:

Yes! And his new name is "GETOUTTATHERE!" But what am I going to do? My nephew and his wife are coming for dinner.

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

STACY:

There's that place in
Dilly Lick that sells
pre-cooked turkeys. It's
open for another half
hour.

GINNY;

I can't get to Dilly
Lick.

BILLY:

You can if I take you
there in the tender.

GINNY:

Would you do that for
me!?

BILLY:

Sure.

GINNY:

Well, we gotta hurry.
Time's a wasting.

(GINNY AND BILLY EXIT)

STACY:

Hey, you're just the gang
I'm looking for.

DAN:

Are you going to put us
to work.

STACY:

Darn right I am. We're
going to MAKE some
turkeys.

KARA:

How do you make a turkey?

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

STACY:

I'll show you. We need
some paper.

(THEY MAKE ORIGAMI TURKEYS)

(THEY SIT AROUND THE TABLE. AS
THEY WORK:)

BECKY:

Billy was going to tell
us about the boomers and
hobos. Who are they?

STACY:

The boomers are railroad
workers: switchmen,
engineers. And the hobos
are people who hitch free
rides on the trains. They
weren't always pals. In
fact, they never talked
to each other.

*explain the meaning of the
word?*

(FOOTAGE)

(VO)

But they all had two
things in common: they
were never home for the
holidays and both love
trains. All kinds of
trains. Some hobos know
as much about trains as
boomers do. Once there
were some hobos walking
along the tracks and they
saw a switch get thrown
but it didn't switch all
the way. It got stuck
in the middle. It was
frozen. And the express
was coming through. The
hobos knew there'd be a
big accident if that
switch wasn't open all
the way. But it wouldn't
budge. More hobos came
to help.

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

STACY (cont'd):

They found an old rail
and wedged it in there
and with all their might,
and more coming to help,
they opened the switch...
and saved the day. The
boomers heard about this
and they went to thank
the hobos. And when they
did they all got to
talking and they found
out they all had good
railroad stories to tell
each other. And from
then on, they agreed to
spend their Thanksgiving
together.

→ *elim*

(STACY AND KIDS AT THE TABLE)

They gather from all over
the country. And each
year they invite special
railroad people. This
year they invited Billy.

KARA:

That's neat.

DAN:

Look at mine.

(THEY SHOW EACH OTHER THEIR
ORIGAMI TURKEYS)

STACY:

Excellent... We'll
decorate the table with
these. Here's a nickel.
put it in the picture
machine while I finish up
my work.

SCENE 10

(PICTURE MACHINE: ALL THE THINGS
TO BE THANKFUL FOR)

SCENE 11
(MAINSET)

(BILLY RETURNS. CHECKS HIS WATCH
AND RUSHES TO HIS OFFICE)

SCENE 12
(WORKSHOP)

(BILLY ENTERS)

BILLY:

Well I missed the parade
and the songs but there's
still some time... if I
really hurry...

(THERE IS A COMMOTION OUTSIDE)

SCENE 13
(MAINSET)

(BILLY COMES OUT. ALL THREE KIDS
ARE TALKING AT ONCE)

STACY:

One at a time.

KARA:

It's Schemer.

STACY:

What happened to Schemer?

BECKY:

Aunt Stacy, Schemer got
on a waiting train to see
if any passengers were
going to give him
presents...

KARA:

... and the train took
off before he could get
off.

DAN:

We saw him. He was
crying.

STACY:

Oh my goodness.

BILLY:

That's the (Poodletown?)
Express.

STACY:

I'll call the switchman.

BILLY:

I'll get the tender and
try and catch up to it at
Doodle Haven.

SCENE 13 (CONT'D)

(BILLY EXITS)

KARA:

Is Billy going to get
Schemer off the train?

STACY:

I hope so. His mommy is
expecting him home for
Thanksgiving dinner.

(SHE CHECKS HER WATCH)

And we better be going,
too.

(STACY PUTS THE CLOSED SIGN IN THE
TICKET WINDOW. STACY GOES TO THE
TABLE AND TAKES HER CONTRIBUTION
AND EXITS)

Come on kids. Or we're
going to be late for our
dinner.

(THEY EXIT. THE STATION IS EMPTY)

(TIME PASSES)

(BILLY ENTERS. CHECKS HIS WATCH.
RUSHES INTO THE OFFICE. A TRAIN
PULLS IN. BILLY COMES RUNNING OUT.
REMEMBERS HIS CRANBERRY SAUCE, GOES
BACK TO GET IT. THE TRAIN IS
PULLING OUT AS BILLY RUNS FOR IT)

BILLY:

Wait... don't leave
without me.

(BILLY RETURNS)

SCENE 14
(INT. JUKEBOX)

TITO:

Billy just missed the
last train he could get.

GRACE:

I guess that means he'll
have to spend
Thanksgiving all alone.

DIDI:

We could invite him in
here, but I ~~don't think~~
he'd ~~quite fit~~.

> think he's too big to fit

TITO:

Sometimes things don't
always work out.

SCENE 15
(MAINSET)

(BILLY WALKS TOWARD THE TABLE AND
PUTS HIS SPECIAL CRANBERRY SAUCE
ON THE BIG EMPTY TABLE)

BILLY:

There's always next year
I guess... There's no
place lonelier than an
empty train station.
Especially on a holiday.

(HE LOOKS AROUND THE STATION:
THE BOOTH... AND HEARS STACY)

STACY:

(VO)

Come on, kids. Or we're
going to be late for
dinner...

(THE ENTRANCE STEPS AND HEARS
GINNY)

GINNY:

(VO)

I'm having Thanksgiving
with my nephew and his
wife.

(THE MURAL AND HEARS J.B. KING)

KING:

(VO)

A lot of people are
counting on us to get
them home for
Thanksgiving dinner.

(BY THE ARCADE:)

SCENE 15 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

(VO)

We're having candied yams
with chocolate sauce.

(ELSEWHERE:)

MIDGE:

(VO)

I'm having dinner with
the Paddington-
Wellingtons.

(ON BILLY)

BILLY:

No sense feeling sorry
for myself. I can put
some of this stuff
away...

(ENTER STACY WITH A DISH)

STACY:

Hi Stacy. What are
you doing back here?

STACY:

I had a feeling you might
miss the last train. And
you were going to spend
Thanksgiving alone.

GINNY:

(VO)

Well, not entirely alone.

(ENTER GINNY CARRYING A TURKEY)

BILLY:

Hi Ginny.

SCENE 15 (CONT'D)

GINNY:

Told my nephew and his
wife to meet me here.

(ENTER J.B. KING)

KING:

Billy, got room for one
more? Railroad people
have to take their
Thanksgiving where they
can.

(ENTER MIDGE)

MIDGE:

Thought there might be a
party going on here...
It's better to be with
folks you know.

(DAN, KARA AND BECKY ENTER WITH
THEIR ORIGAMI TURKEYS)

DAN:

We asked if we could
follow Aunt Stacy.

(ENTER SCHEMER WITH A PLATTER)

SCHEMER:

Mommy said I could leave
the table if I finished
my peas.

ALL:

Schemer?!

BECKY:

I think I'm beginning to
understand Thanksgiving.

BILLY:

Shall we?...

(THEY ALL GATHER AROUND THE TABLE)

SCENE 15 (CONT'D)

STACY:

We all have something to
thank you for.

BILLY:

You know, a train station
can be a pretty warm
place on a holiday.

(ALL PLACE THEIR PLATTERS AND SUCH
ON THE TABLE AND THEY SIT. DAN
LOOKS UNDER A LID AND MR. C. HANDS
HIM OUT A BISCUIT)

MR. C:

Psssssst... pass these
around. I made them
myself.

(DAN TAKES THE TINY PLATE)

STACY:

Are you disappointed you
missed your other
Thanksgiving?

BILLY:

A little. But this one
gives me more to be
thankful for: ...
thankful for my
friends... thankful for
my good health and
thankful for the good
health of my friends.

*these
gifts from our Mother Earth*

(THEY ALL JOIN HANDS IN A MOMENT OF
SILENCE WITH THEIR HEADS BOWED.
THEN THEY RESUME THE MEAL TOGETHER.
AD LIBS: OH, HAVE SOME OF THIS;
PASS ME THOSE POTATOES; HAVE YOU
TRIED THESE; ETC. THE SCENE
PROGRESSES WITH PLATES BEING PASSED
-- INCLUDING THE TINY PLATE WHICH
PARTICULARLY SURPRISES J.B. KING --
HELPINGS ARE TAKEN AND THE FRIENDLY
CHATTER CONTINUES)

correct sp.

develop further

(THE END)